[English]

Investigation in Indian Bank Scam

4928. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the progress of investigation made in Indian Bank Scam, Chennai;

(b) the total amount involved in the scam; and

(c) the steps taken to stop the recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Central Bureau of Investigatioin (CBI) have reported that 14 cases pertaining to Indian Bank have been registered in various branches of CBI. CBI have further reported that the amount involved in 14 cases registered by them is Rs. 295.95 crores.

Indian Bank has reported that all the Non Performing Assets need not be construed as loss as all of them are not entirely unrecoverable.

(c) Reserve Bank of India have introduced certain changes in its system of on-site examination to ensure continuous and focussed supervision on banks. A system of quarterly off-site surveillance has also been put in place to pick up early warning signals. Recommendations of Rashid Jilani Committee to streamline the internal control in banks and the system of audit have also been advised to banks for implementation.

Canstar Capital Scheme of Canara Bank

4929. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Canstar Capital Scheme of Canara Bank has submitted the poll results to SEBI on their move to unilaterally modify their contractual obligation,

(b) if so, the reasons for delaying decision on the issue by SEBI; and

(c) the remedial measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) Canbank Investment Management Services Ltd. have reported that they have submitted to SEBI the results of the postal ballot in respect of the resolutions set out in the notice dated 10th September, 1996 seeking linking of repurchase/redemption of Canstar units to net asset value.

(b) and (c) The matter is under consideration of SEBI.

Buildings on Agricultural Land

4930. SHRI RAMSAGAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to unstarred Question No. 5 dated November 5 dated November 20, 1996 regarding "buildings on agricultural land" and state:

(a) the number of cases under process and the number of cases in which legal proceedings have since been finalised;

(b) the steps taken to expedite the disposal of cases;

(c) the number of buildings out of 2714 plots on agricultural land that have been demolished and the land converted for actual agricultural use;

(d) the number of unauthorised colonies that have come up on the agricultural land without getting the land use changed;

(e) whether there is any proposal to regularise the sale-purchase of Gram Sabha plots allotted to the people of weaker section but sold out to others after making certain levy on the sale purchase as had been done in the case of DDA flats earlier; and

(f) if not, the reasons for following discriminatory policies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Regional Passport Office

4931. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether he paid a surprise visit to the Regional Passport Office at New Delhi on December 26, 1996 to see for himself and listen to complaints about the difficulties faced by applicant's for passports;

(b) if so, the major complaints about the applicants difficulties and problems that came to his notice; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to remove these difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) to (c) The Prime Minister, in his capacity as the Minister for External Affairs, visited the Regional Passport Office, New Delhi on 26th December, 1996 to inaugurate the newly installed Tele-enquiry System. He also availed of this opportunity to take a round of the office, to interact with the applicants and listen to their complaints. He gave on the spot instructions on how to make the office more responsive to the needs of the public

Funds to Revitalisation of PSUs

4932. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government allocate funds to sick public sector units for revitalisation purpose,

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of such sick companies to whom funds have been allocated alongwith the amount of financial assistance allocated during the last one year;